

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1449

ANSWERED ON:30.11.2006

TOUTS' INVOLVEMENT IN TATKAL SCHEME

Chavda Shri Harisinh Pratapsinh; Renge Patil Shri Tukaram Ganpatrao

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Railways are aware that the Tatkal Scheme is entirely in the hands of touts;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the number of persons apprehended for black marketing of Tatkal railway tickets during the last two years and the action taken against them; and
- (d) the steps taken by the Railways to dismantle the network of touts?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R.VELU)

- (a) No, Sir. No incidence of rampant toutting activities in Tatkal Scheme has come to notice.
- (b) Does not arise.
- (c) During the years 2005 and 2006 (upto September), 1215 and 766 touts respectively were prosecuted under section 143 of the Railways Act, 1989 for unauthorizedly carrying on the business & selling of railway tickets. No separate figures are maintained in respect of black marketing of Tatkal tickets.
- (d) Regular and surprise checks are conducted in association with Vigilance and Security to curb the activities of touts in and around reservation offices. During peak rush periods, such checks are intensified. Touts so apprehended are prosecuted as per provisions of law. Strict disciplinary action is taken against the staff found conniving with touts in such malpractices.